



WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

FACT SHEET

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Information about the Radio Control (R/C) Radio Service

What is R/C?

R/C is one of the private personal radio services. It is a one-way, short distance, non-voice radio service for on/off operation of devices at places distant from the operator. R/C Rule 11 authorizes your R/C unit to transmit any non-voice emission type for the purpose of (1) the operator turning on and/or off a device at a remote location, or (2) an indicating device for the operator being turned on and/or off by a sensor at a remote location. You cannot communicate voice or data in the R/C.

Do I need a license for my R/C unit?

License documents are neither needed or issued. R/C Rule 3 provides your authority to operate an R/C unit in places where the FCC regulates radiocommunications. There is no age or citizenship requirement.

Where may I operate my R/C unit?

You may operate your R/C unit within the territorial limits of the fifty United States, the District of Columbia, and the Caribbean and Pacific Insular areas ("U.S."). You may also operate your R/C unit on or over any other area of the world, except within the territorial limits of areas where radiocommunications are regulated by another agency of the U.S. or within the territorial limits of any foreign government.

Which R/C channels may I use?

R/C Rule 7 lists 50 channels in the 72-73 MHz VHF range that may only be used to operate model aircraft devices and 30 channels in the 75.4-76.0 MHz VHF range that may only be used to operate model surface craft devices. You must stop such transmissions, however, if they interfere with authorized radio operations in those VHF ranges or with broadcast TV reception on channels 4 or 5. R/C Rule 7 also lists HF channels at 26.995, 27.045, 27.095, 27.145, 27.195, and 27.244 MHz that may be used to operate other kinds of devices. R/C channels are not afforded any protection from interference due to the operation of fixed and mobile stations in other services assigned to the same or adjacent frequencies.

What is a "model"?

A *model aircraft device* is any small imitation of an aircraft. A *model surface craft device* is any small imitation of a boat, car or vehicle for carrying people or objects, except aircraft.

Where can I obtain more information on R/C?

For operating information, see the rules for the Radio Control (R/C) Radio Service, 47 C.F.R. §§ 95.201-95.225. They are written in plain language to make them easy to read and understand. For technical information, see the Technical Regulations for the Personal Radio Services, 47 C.F.R. §§ 95.601-95.669.

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Where can I get a copy of the FCC Rules for R/C?

The rules are published annually in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Telecommunications, Part 80 to End. Order from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Mail Stop SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-9328.

Above are general answers to the questions most frequently asked about CB. For complete information, see the Commission's Rules for the Radio Control (R/C) Radio Service, 47 C.F.R. §§ 95.201-95.225.

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